

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently Amended) A topical preparation comprising at least one ~~biotechnologically obtained, water insoluble, linear poly- $\alpha$ -glucan~~ poly-1,4- $\alpha$ -D-glucan substantially free of branching and at least 98% insoluble in water under standard conditions (T=25°C/+20%,p=101325 Pascal +/-20%).

2.-5. (Canceled)

6. (Previously Amended) The topical preparation of claim 1, wherein the poly- $\alpha$ -glucan is present in an amount of about 0.5 to about 80% by weight, based on the total weight of the topical preparation.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Previously Amended) The topical preparation of claim 1, wherein the topical preparation is a cosmetic composition.

9. (Previously Amended) The topical preparation of claim 1, wherein the topical preparation is a human or veterinary medical preparation for external application.

10. (Previously Amended) The topical preparation of claim 1, wherein the topical preparation is selected from the group consisting of creams, compact creams, lotions, milks, masks, powders, ointments, ointment bases and soaps.

11. (Previously Amended) The topical preparation of claim 10, wherein the topical preparation is selected from the group consisting of creams, powders and ointment bases for make-up.

12. (Previously Amended) The topical preparation of claim 11, wherein the make-up is blusher, eye shadow or lipstick.

13. (Canceled).

14. (Previously Added) The topical preparation of claim 8, wherein the cosmetic composition is a bodycare composition.

15. (Previously Added) The topical preparation of claim 8, wherein the cosmetic composition is a decorative cosmetic.